

## Hardwax Oil Floors

### General Information

Over 70% of wooden floors installed in Belgium, Holland and Germany are finished with oil. Hardwax oiling gives a uniquely natural and very durable finish to a wood floor. It allows the wood grain to feature like no other finish and helps to bring the beauty of the wood out. When you install a hardwax oiled floor, it is a European lifestyle choice - it will require a small amount of ongoing maintenance. Once maintained, the floor should never require a re-sanding in normal wear and tear conditions.

### When installing a hardwax oiled floor

- All other work must be completed before any flooring is laid.
- When a hardwax oiled floor is installed, it must be allowed to harden for 7-10 days. This period is measured from when the installation is completed.
- Do not cover the floor during this hardening period as it must be exposed to the air to allow curing.
- During this 7-10 day hardening period the floor is unprotected from stains, even water will leave a mark in the first 48 hours. This is why all other work must be finished pre-installation. Walking on the floor in dry socks is permitted after 12-24 hours.
- If work is still being carried out, which is not recommended, the floor will need to be covered. Tuprotec is the only suitable floor covering as it allows for the flow of air.
- The installer should carry out any necessary cutting in another room or outside.

### Maintenance of a hardwax floor

- The floor should be cleaned approximately once a month, or when necessary, using Floor Service Parquet Cleaner. Use water sparingly.
- When installed, the floor will need a light coating of Floor Service Maintenance Oil. This process should then be repeated approximately every 12 months or when needed. The floor will look dry and white areas will appear when the maintenance oil is required. Between oilings, you can oil small areas if required.
- The process of applying oil is very straight-forward. For an average size floor, 30m<sup>2</sup> should take 1-2 hours. It should be applied with a lint-free cloth or you can hire a buffing machine, such as the Floor Service Floor Boy. Only a small amount of oil is required, approximately 1 litre of oil per 60-80m<sup>2</sup> of flooring.
- The floor will need to be vacuumed and then cleaned before you apply the maintenance oil. Stains and dirt should be removed using Floor Service Parquet Cleaner.